

Message Text

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53

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY:EA/EX:HRMILLS:WG

APPROVED BY:EA/EX:HRMILLS

SCA:JWHITNEY (INFO)

----- 122436

R 011147Z OCT 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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FOLLOWING REPEAT PORT MORESBY 1054 SENT ACTION SECTION
SEPT 29

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT MORESBY 1054

ATTN EA/EX

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OCON CGEN PP

SUBJ: EA CONSULAR CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 239300

1. IN ABSENCE AMBASSADOR ON HOME LEAVE POST HAS FOLLOWING
OFFICER COMPLEMENT:

- A. CHARGE MARK EASTON
- B. ADMIN/CONSULAR JOHN VIEIRA
- C. JOT ROBERT FITTS
- D. PAO FRANK ALBERT

2. VIEIRA HAS BEEN PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE
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WORK BUT IS NOW IN PROCESS GAINING CONSULAR BACKGROUND IN

PREPARATION ASSUMING ALL CONSULAR DUTIES ON OCT 15. HE HAS TAKEN CONSULAR COURSE BUT WILL HAVE PERFORMED ONLY BRIEFLY IN CONSULAR FUNCTION BY TIME OF CONFERENCE. HE WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO SERVE AS POST'S ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

3. FITTS HAS PERFORMED CONSULAR FUNCTION FOR SEVERAL MONTHS AS PART OF HIS ROTATION ASSIGNMENT, BUT AS OF OCT 15 WILL RELINQUISH RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONSULAR FUNCTION AND ASSUME A VERY HEAVY ADMINISTRATIVE WORKLOAD IN CONNECTION WITH REPAIRS OF AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, THE PAO'S RESIDENCE, AND OTHER SPECIAL PROJECTS. HE WILL BE FULLY TASKED DURING PERIOD.

4. CHARGE WILL BE OCCUPIED IN ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR FIRST TOUR ECON/COMMERCIAL OFFICER SCHEDULED ARRIVE EARLY OCT.

5. CONSULAR CONFERENCE WHILE OF UNDOUBTED VALUE TO EITHER VIEIRA OR FITTS WOULD PLACE CONSIDERABLE STRAIN ON POST. GIVEN TRAVEL DIFFICULTIES FROM PORT MORESBY TO BANGKOK OFFICER WOULD NEED TO BE ABSENT FROM POST FOR FIVE WORKING DAYS. WE WONDER IF PORT MORESBY COULD BE OMITTED FROM CONFERENCE GIVEN THIS SITUATION.

EASTON

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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NNN

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